Water Quality

ANNUAL REPORT 1999

A copy of this report is available on Fresno City's website. It can be found at www.ci.fresno.ca.us/public_utilities/h20ccr.pdf

Please, Reset Your Timers

To Start Watering Any Time Other Than On The Hour

Summer Watering Schedule









Questions?

WATER QUALITY 498-4136

WATER CONSERVATION 498-1016

Need a speaker for your school, community group or service club about WATER ISSUES?

498-4674 WATER DIVISION 498-1458





The City of Fresno Water Division is dedicated to delivering high quality and affordable water to your tap.

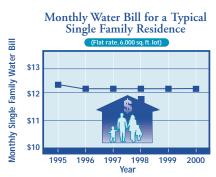
What's In This Report?

his Annual Water Quality Report provides important information about Fresno's water supply, water quality and water delivery system. Test results for Fresno's 1999 Water Quality Monitoring Program are summarized on pages 3-4.

Before reviewing the water quality information, it is important to read the messages from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and from your City of Fresno Water Division found on pages 2-5.

Delivering Affordable Drinking Water

e are dedicated to delivering a safe, reliable supply of water to the community at the lowest possible cost. Our team is committed to providing economical and effective services. Numerous efficiency measures have permitted the Water Division to absorb rising costs without rate increases. Our staff is proud there has not been a rate increase since 1994.





Drinking Water Quality In Fresno In 1999

he sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances that result from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wildlife, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and sewage treatment plants.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturallyoccurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

- Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the California Department of Health Services (Department) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We deliver our water according to the Department's regulations. The Department's Food and Drug Branch regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The tables on the following pages list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected or tested for during the 1999 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per

year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data contained in this report, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terms and Abbreviations

Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGS) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste and appearance of drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (**PDWS**): MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Range of Detections: The minimum and maximum results for detected contaminants. In some instances, the maximum detected result may be higher than the MCL. Water utilities are required to collect follow-up samples to confirm the presence of contaminants above the MCL. If confirmed, additional sampling is conducted for a specified period and the results are averaged to determine if the source is in compliance with drinking water standards.

n/a: not applicablend: not detectable at testing limitug/L: micrograms per liter or parts per billion

mg/L: milligrams per liter or parts per millionpCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)AL: action level

TABLE 1-Primary Standards and Unregulated Contaminants

This following table summarizes water quality sample results from the past year. All samples were taken from 250 wells, except microbiological samples, which were taken from the distribution system. Minimum, maximum, and average values are listed for all analyzed constituents. The "average" values listed represent hundreds or thousands of analyses, taken from active wells. Any well that violates permissible standards is closed or customers are directly notified.

Barium (Ba) (ug/L) 1 (2) 0.006 nd - 0.1 NO Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits Chromium (Total Cr) (ug/L) 50 2.5 4 nd - 12 NO Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits Fluoride (F) Temp Dependent (mg/L) 2 1 0.214 nd - 1.4 NO Erosion of natural deposits: water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories Nitrate (as NO3) (mg/L) 45 45 16 nd - 45 NO Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion natural deposits Micro Biological Total Coliform Bacteria 5.00% (0) 0.64% 0 - 1.27% NO Naturally present in the environment Radionuclides Gross Alpha (pCi/L) 15 (0) 2.78 -1.65 - 25.25 NO Erosion of natural deposits Radium 226 (pCi/L) 3 none 0.32 -0.82 - 4.1 NO Erosion of natural deposits Radion (pCi/L) none none 611 1 - 2708 NO Erosion of natural deposits Radion (pCi/L) none none 611 1 - 2708 NO Erosion of natural deposits Synthetic Organic Contaminants Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) (ug/L) 20 (0) 2 nd - 54 NO Discharge from setel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits NO Brosion of natural deposits water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion natural deposits Prosion of natural deposits in the environment in		MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Fresno Average	Range of Detections	MCL Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
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cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ug/L) 6 (70) 0.14 nd - 10 NO Discharge from industrial chemical factories; major biodegradation byproduct of TCE and PCE groundwater contamination Dichloropropane (1,2-DCP) (ug/L) 5 0.5 0.098 nd - 2.1 NO Discharge from industrial chemical factories; primary component of some fumigants Methylene Chloride(Dichloromethane) (ug/L) 5 0 0.002 nd - 0.8 NO Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories; insecticide Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ug/L) 5 0 0.089 nd - 4.6 NO Discharge from factories, drycleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)nn Toluene (ug/L) 150 0.001 nd - 0.6 NO Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories; underground gas tank leaks Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ug/L) 5 0.8 0.417 nd - 8.5 NO Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L) 100 n/a 0.057 nd - 10.68 NO Byproduct of drinking water chlorination Lead (Pb) (ug/L) AL=15 2 2.5 nd - 22* NO Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits Copper (Cu) (mg/L) AL=1.3 0.17 0.27 nd47* NO Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	Ethylene Dibromide (EDB) (ug/L)	50	(0)	2	nd - 54	NO	Discharge from petroleum refineries; underground gas tank leaks; banned nematocide that
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Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ug/L) 5 0 0.089 nd - 4.6 NO Discharge from factories, drycleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)nn Toluene (ug/L) 150 150 0.001 nd - 0.6 NO Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories; underground gas tank leaks Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ug/L) 5 0.8 0.417 nd - 8.5 NO Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L) 100 n/a 0.057 nd - 10.68 NO Byproduct of drinking water chlorination Lead (Pb) (ug/L) AL=15 2 2.5 nd - 22* NO Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits Copper (Cu) (mg/L) AL=1.3 0.17 0.27 nd47* NO Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	Dichloropropane (1,2-DCP) (ug/L)	5	0.5	0.098	nd - 2.1	NO	Discharge from industrial chemical factories; primary component of some fumigants
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Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ug/L) 5 0.8 0.417 nd -8.5 NO Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L) 100 n/a 0.057 nd -10.68 NO Byproduct of drinking water chlorination Lead (Pb) (ug/L) AL=15 2 2.5 nd - 22* NO Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits Copper (Cu) (mg/L) AL=1.3 0.17 0.27 nd47* NO Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (ug/L)	5	0	0.089	nd - 4.6	NO	Discharge from factories, drycleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)nn
Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L) 100 n/a 0.057 nd -10.68 NO Byproduct of drinking water chlorination Lead (Pb) (ug/L) AL=15 2 2.5 nd - 22* NO Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits Copper (Cu) (mg/L) AL=1.3 0.17 0.27 nd47* NO Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits leaching from wood preservatives	Toluene (ug/L)	150	150	0.001	nd - 0.6	NO	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories; underground gas tank leaks
Lead (Pb) (ug/L) AL=15 2 2.5 nd - 22* NO Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits Copper (Cu) (mg/L) AL=1.3 0.17 0.27 nd47* NO Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits leaching from wood preservatives	Trichloroethylene (TCE) (ug/L)	5	0.8	0.417	nd -8.5	NO	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits Copper (Cu) (mg/L) AL=1.3 0.17 0.27 nd47* NO Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits leaching from wood preservatives	Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L)	100	n/a	0.057	nd -10.68	NO	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
leaching from wood preservatives	Lead (Pb) (ug/L)	AL=15	2	2.5	nd - 22*	NO	
Unregulated Contaminants	Copper (Cu) (mg/L)	AL=1.3	0.17	0.27	nd47*	NO	
	Unregulated Contaminants						
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene (ug/L) n/a 0.006 nd - 1.4 NO		n/a		0.006	nd - 1.4	NO	
2,2-Dichloropropane (ug/L) n/a 0.325 nd - 85 NO							
Bromodichloromethane (THM) (ug/L) n/a 0.008 nd - 1.2 NO	1 1 1 1 1					NO	
Bromoform (THM) (ug/L) n/a 0.005 nd - 1.1 NO							
Chloroethane (ug/L) n/a 0.003 nd - 0.7 NO EPA regulations require us to monitor unregulated contaminants							FPA regulations require us to monitor unregulated contaminants
Chloroform (THM) (ug/L) n/a 0.049 nd - 8.4 NO while EPA considers setting limits on them.							
Chloromethane (ug/L) n/a 0.004 nd -1.4 NO	. , , , , ,						Thin 2.11 solisasis soung limits on tronk
Dibromochloromethane (THM) (ug/L) n/a 0.001 nd - 0.6 NO							
Dichlorodifluoromethane (ug/L) n/a 0.636 nd - 49 NO	. , , , , ,						
Metolachlor (ug/L) n/a 0.389 nd - 0.5 NO							
Metribuzin (ug/L) n/a 0.389 nd - 0.5 NO							

About Unregulated Contaminants: The EPA and the California Department of Health Services requires us to monitor these contaminants to help determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

^{*} In 1999, compliance with the Lead/Copper rule required that 50 samples be collected in the distribution system. Compliance for the rule is based on the 90th percentile result for all samples collected. Of those 50 samples, only 1 exceeded the Action Level for lead.

TABLE 2-Secondary Standards Contaminants List

Secondary standards are based on aesthetic factors (taste and odor, etc.) and are not health related.

	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Fresno Average	Range of Detections	MCL Violation
Inorganic Contaminants					
Aluminum (ug/L)	200		80	nd - 240	YES*
Apparent Color (Unfiltered) (units)	15		3	nd - 15	NO
Chloride (CI) (mg/L)	500		13	5 - 26	NO
Iron (Fe) (ug/L)	300		30	nd - 160	NO
Manganese (Mn) (ug/L)	50		3	nd - 30	NO
Odor threshold @ 60 C (ton)	3		1	nd -3	NO
Sodium (Na) (mg/L)	n/a		21	9 - 42	NO
Specific Conductance (E.C.) (umhos)	1,600		483	210 - 640	NO
Sulfate (SO4) (mg/L)	500		15	4 - 49	NO
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000		250	140 - 380	NO
Total Hardness (as CaCO3) (mg/L)	n/a		139	31 - 330	NO
Turbidity (Lab) (ntu)	5		0.55	nd - 4.3	NO

^{*} One water sample exceeded the aesthetic standard for aluminum.

TABLE 3-Contaminants Not Found In Fresno Water

No detections of these compounds occured in 1999.

Dichlorobenzene (m-DCB)

2,4,5-TP (Silvex) 2,4-D 2-Chloroethylvinyl Ether Acenaphthylene Acetone

Acrolein Aldicarb (Sulfone) Aldicarb (Sulfoxide)

Aldrin Anthracene Antimony Arochlor - 1016 Atrazine (Aatrex) Banvel (Dicamba) Bentazon (Basagran)

Benzene

Benzo (B) Flouranthene Benzo(a) Anthracene Benzo(a)pyrene Benzo(K) Flouranthene Benzyl Butyl Phthalate

Beryllium Bicarbonate (HC03)

Boron

Bromacil (Hyvar) Bromobenzene Bromochloromethane Bromomethane Butachlor

Cadmium (Cd) Carbaryl

Carbofuran (Furadan) Carbon Disulfide Carbon Tetrachloride Chlordane

Chloroethyl (ether) Chloroethylvinyl ether

Chlorothalonil (Daconil, Bravo)

Chlorotoluene Chrysene Cyanide Dalapon (Dowpon) Demeton

Dibenzo (a,h) Antracene Dibromomethane (Methylene

Bromide)

Diazinon

Dichlorobenzene (o-DCB) Dichlorobenzene (p-DCB) Dichloroethane (1,1-DCA) Dichloroethane (1,2-DCA) Dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE) Dichloroethylene (Trans 1,2-DCE) Dichloropropane (1,3-) Dichloropropene Dichloropropene (1,1-) Dichloropropene (1,3-) (Total) Dichloropropene (cis 1,3-) Dichloropropene (Trans 1,3-) Dieldrin Diethylhexyladipate Diethylhexylphthalate (DEHP) Diethylphthalate Dimethoate (Cygon) Dimethylphthalate Di-n-Butvlphthalate Dinitrotoluene Dinoseb Diquat Disulfoton Diuron (Karmex) Endothall

Ethyl tert-Butyl Ether (ETBE) Ethylbenzene

Flourene

Endrin

Epoxide

Foaming Agents (MBAS)

Glyphosate Heptachlor Heptachlor Epoxide Hexachlorobenzene Hexachlorobutadiene Hexachlorocyclopentadiene Hexachloroethane

Hydrocarbon Oil and Grease Hydroxide (OH) Hydroxycarbofuran

Isophorone

Isopropylbenzene (Cumene) Isopropyltoluene Lindane (Gamma-BHC) Mercury (Hg)

Methomyl Methoxychlor

Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK, Butanone) Methyl Isobutyl Ketone

Methyl-tert-Butyl Ether (MTBE) Molinate (Ordram)

Monochlorobenzene (Chlorobenzene)

Naphthalene N-Butylbenzene N-Propylbenzene Nickel Nitrobenzene Oxamyl (Vydate) Pentachloroethane

Pentachlorophenol (PCP) Perylene

Phenanthrene **Picloram**

Polychlorinated Biphenyl's (PCBs)

Potassium (K) Prometon Prometryn (Caparol) Propachlor Pvrene Pyrene (1,2,3-cd) Sec-Butylbenzene Selenium (Se) Silver (Ag) Simazine (Princep) Styrene (Vinyl Benzene)

Tert-Amyl-Methyl Ether (TAME) Tert-Butylbenzene Tetrachloroethane

Thiobencarb (Bolero) Toxaphene

TP (Silvex)

Thallium

Trichlorobenzene (1,2,3-) Trichlorobenzene (1,2,4-) Trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA) Trichloroethane (1,1,2-TCA) Trichlorofluoromethane (Freon 11)

Trichloropropane (1,2,3-) Trifluralin

Trimethylbenzene (1,3,5-)

Vinyl Chloride Xvlene's Zinc (Zn)

Information from the

Radon: Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It occurs throughout the world in our atmosphere and in the ground. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a very small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness.



EPA About Possible Contaminants



Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider, or choose to use bottled water for mixing formula and juice for your baby. If you are pregnant, you should drink bottled water.

Arsenic: EPA is reviewing the drinking water standard for arsenic because of special concern that it may not be stringent enough. Arsenic is a naturally-occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations.

Lead: Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are

concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

DBCP: An agricultural chemical used to control nematodes in soil, DBCP use was prohibited in 1977. It was discovered in some groundwater wells in the San Joaquin Valley and other locations in California. The State of California and the US EPA established an MCL at 0.2 parts per billion in 1989, leading to the closure of many wells. An even lower "Recommended Public Health Level" (RPHL) was proposed at 0.002 parts per billion in the early 1990s, but was never formally adopted.

As a part of the routine review of MCLs conducted by the State of California, the Department of Health Services reviewed the MCL for DBCP in 1999. Their review confirmed that the current MCL at 0.2 parts per billion is appropriate and protective of public health. This action signals that there has been no new evidence indicating the MCL should be changed. The California Environmental Protection Agency, in an independent action, established a "Public Health Goal" for DBCP in 1999. This level was set at 0.0017 parts per billion, equivalent to the RPHL proposed at 0.002 parts per billion.

About Drinking Water Standards & Risks

Drinking Water Standards are set very conservatively with most MCLs set at a level which would prevent no more than one in one million increased chance of cancer **over 70 years of exposure.** This conservative risk threshold is generally unattainable in the rest of our lives.

The following table summarizes the length of time it takes

	each person in the U.S. to accumulate a one in one million risk of death from familiar events.						
	Motor Vehicle Accident	2 Days					
**	Drowning	10 Days					
	Fire	13 Days					
4	Lightning	2 Years					

Challenges-Meeting Future Needs With A Stable Supply

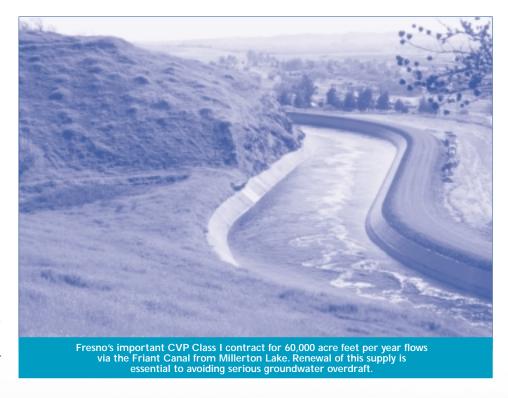
resno has limited water supplies and uses more water per person than almost any other California city. Without the surface water from local rivers and artificial recharge, our groundwater supply would disappear. Even with these efforts, the groundwater table has dropped 70 feet since 1945. Conservation and careful management are essential to a stable, affordable supply.

What We Must Do To Assure A Stable Supply

We cannot continue to take out more water than we return to our aquifer. Programs have been developed and must be implemented to balance our water budget and reverse the overdraft of our aquifer. Shown on these pages are some of the things the City is doing to assure a stable supply now and in the future.

Renew Fresno's Bureau Contract

Fresno has a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation for 60,000 acre feet annually of Central Valley Project water from the San Joaquin River. Renewal of this CVP supply is essential to avoiding serious ground-water overdraft in the area.



The US Bureau of Reclamation has stated that renewal of the City's CVP contract is contingent upon implementing a metering program for all single family residences. All businesses, industries and multi-family customers served by the City of Fresno are already metered. The City is currently in negotiations with the Bureau and is pursuing strategies to renew this vital contract.

Treat Surface Water

The region's first Surface Water Treatment Facility will add another 20 million gallons of water each day for customers, about 15% of the City's water demand. This project will relieve pumping pressure on our groundwater and should be online by 2002.

Add to Groundwater Recharge Efforts

Fresno has one of the largest artificial recharge programs in the nation. More than 16 billion gallons are returned to the aquifer each year at dedicated City basins such as Leaky Acres and at Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District storm water basins. Additional basins will be brought online to increase recharge amounts.

Save Our Supply

Even with all these efforts, conservation is the key to a stable supply.

Please Help!

- · Don't waste water.
- Reduce your landscape watering.
- · Take shorter showers.
- Run full loads in clothes and dishwashers.



Protect Our Water Quality

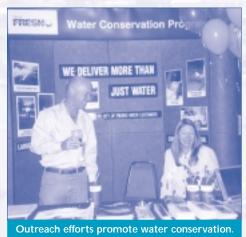
Groundwater contamination is a serious problem for Fresno. Millions of dollars are spent each year ensuring the water we provide is safe and clean but we must make every effort to protect our groundwater from contaminants that can be released into the environment by agricultural, industrial and urban activities.

Promote Efficient Water Use Through Education

By working with teachers and attending public events to promote conservation, customers see that all of us play an important part in maintaining our water supply.

Promote Water Use Surveys to Save Water & Money

The Water Conservation Program conducts interior and exterior surveys to identify leaks and measure flow rates and water pressure. A report outlines recommendations to save water and money and representatives give out free water-saving devices. Commercial water use evaluations identify potential water, energy and wastewater savings.





All City commercial/industrial/institutional, multi-family and large landscape customers are eligible for this free service. Since 1997, million of gallons of water have been saved each year through the efforts of hundreds of business and residential customers. And they have saved, too, through rate and energy reductions.

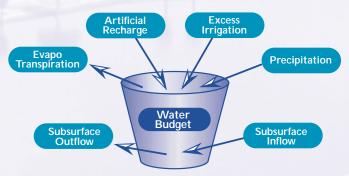
Other Customer Services Offered By the Water Division

- **1.** Backflow testing to prevent drinking water contamination.
- **2.** Water education and conservation programs in the schools, a Speaker's Bureau and system tours.
- **3.** Free lawn watering guide and advice about timer adjustments.

Protecting Our Water Resources

resno is the second largest city in the nation to rely solely on ground-water for its water supply. Over 250 wells pump 135 million gallons per day from this underground aquifer. It is critical that we protect and preserve this vital resource.

- In 1996, the Fresno Metropolitan Water Resource Management Plan was adopted by the City Council. Implementation of the water management and conservation strategies incorporated in this Plan will ensure Fresno has adequate water supplies through 2030.
- The Water Division works with many stakeholders to clean up groundwater contamination and protect the quality of your groundwater.



To Have A Reliable Regional Water Supply, We Must Balance the Water Budget

Water Quality

ANNUAL REPORT 1999



Translations of this report in Spanish and Hmong can be requested by calling 498-4136

Facts About Drinking Water Standards

nder the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Department of Health Services (DHS) were charged with the responsibility of setting and implementing safe drinking water standards. Congress reauthorized this act in 1996. 100 compounds are now regulated; another 48 are subject to monitoring. Fortunately, only a small number of these compounds have ever been detected in Fresno's water supply.

Is Fresno's water quality monitoring reliable?

Yes! The City of Fresno's Water Division has an extensive, ongoing water quality monitoring program. In 1999 alone, the Water Division spent about \$300,000 for the analysis of water samples by independent laboratories. It is the intention of the City to detect potential contaminants before any health impacts occur.

What happens in Fresno if a well exceeds EPA or DHS standards?

If a well violates standards, it is removed from service and an alternate water supply is provided. In the event a well exceeds standards but must stay in service, customers who receive water from that well would be directly notified by mail or by hand-delivered flyers.

Does the presence of contaminants indicate a health risk?

Not necessarily. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

May some people be more vulnerable to health risks than others?

Yes! Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants; people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



WATER DIVISION
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